

# Wild Donkeys for Adoption

Read the following text from Honolulu Magazine. A number of words have been left out. In the margin you will find four alternatives for each gap. Choose the best alternative and mark your answer – A, B, C or D – in the appropriate box.

Do you have a large piece of land in the countryside with room for a few untamed beasts of burden – or, better yet, a couple of dozen? If so, the Waikoloa Nightingale adoption people in Honolulu \_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_ to talk to you.

The Waikoloa Nightingales are wild donkeys \_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_ the scrubland of the Big Island’s South Kohala district. Their population has \_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_ to nuisance levels. An extreme dry period that’s affected the area doesn’t seem to have reduced their numbers, \_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_ it has made the well-watered Waikoloa Village an irresistible oasis. Donkeys have been breaking fences, drinking from swimming pools, destroying lawns and gardens, \_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_ traffic accidents, fighting neighborhood dogs, pooping everywhere and hee-hawing loudly at night (giving them the unlikely nickname “Nightingales”).

And they treat residents with an attitude, stomping their hooves and baring their teeth at people who try to shoo them away. With \_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_ responsible for controlling these bad asses, some members of the local community have taken it upon themselves to capture, sterilize and find good homes for the animals.

“We want to do right by the donkeys,” says Brady Bergin, a large-animal veterinarian from Waimea, and a \_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_ figure in the donkey adoption effort. “If we don’t deal humanely with the problem now, \_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_ five or ten years there won’t be any wild donkeys left on the island.”

- 1 A had  
B apply  
C want  
D allow
- 2 A roaming  
B injuring  
C riding  
D delivering
- 3 A become  
B dropped  
C overtaken  
D grown
- 4 A because  
B until  
C but  
D if
- 5 A getting  
B causing  
C avoiding  
D damaging
- 6 A somebody  
B anybody  
C everybody  
D nobody
- 7 A key  
B single  
C correct  
D clear
- 8 A for  
B during  
C in  
D last

Why adopt a wild donkey? They \_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_ great lawn mowers. They also provide excellent \_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_ for sheep and goats from aggressive dogs (they hate dogs). “They’re neat creatures,” says Bird McIver, of CB Horse Rescue in Keaau. “They’re very curious and very smart, and \_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_ you get them to trust you, you can build upon that trust. You don’t want to force them, though. You want them to think it’s \_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_ idea.”

\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_ Bergin and McIver began their Nightingale adoption campaign last fall, they’ve “re-homed” about 200 animals, reducing the wild herd by about a third. Qualified candidates for donkey adoption may live on any island. They’ll need to \_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_ securely fenced farmland, water and a long-term commitment (donkeys can live for 30 years or so). Also, new owners must \_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_ that the Nightingales are not for human consumption. “A lot of people here locally don’t mind eating donkey meat,” says Bergin. “But that’s not our policy. We’re not in this to send them down that road.”

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- 9 A make  
B have  
C prefer  
D get
- 10 A company  
B friends  
C comfort  
D protection
- 11 A until  
B unless  
C before  
D once
- 12 A their  
B your  
C any  
D no
- 13 A When  
B That  
C Since  
D Until
- 14 A build  
B guarantee  
C experience  
D donate
- 15 A pay  
B deny  
C agree  
D change

